

Message Text

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ACTION H-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /015 W
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R 071626Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3199

UNCLAS MADRID 6935

FOR CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CPRS, SP

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

REF: STATE 237692

1. FOLLOWING INFORMATION SUBMITTED IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRY
BY CONGRESSMAN HOLLAND.

2. MARLAU FURNITURE CO. WAS A MANUFACTURING AND SALES
ENTERPRISE WHOLLY OWNED BY US CITIZENS, MR. LAWRENCE M.
CORCORAN, SR., AND HIS WIFE, MARGARET. IT WAS FOUNDED IN
MADRID IN 1961. FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS IT DID A SUBSTANTIAL
BUSINESS, LARGELY, ALTHOUGH NOT EXCLUSIVELY, WITH MEMBERS
OF THE US ARMED FORCES STATIONED IN EUROPE.

3. IN RECENT YEARS THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF MARLAU
APPARENTLY DETERIORATED AND THE CORCORAN FAMILY DEPARTED
SPAIN EARLY THIS YEAR, ABANDONING THE BUSINESS. EFFORTS TO
CONTACT THEM HAVE GONE UNANSWERED AND THE SHOWROOM AND
FACTORY ARE EMPTY AND DESERTED. US MILITARY AUTHORITIES AT
THE TORREJON AIR FORCE BASE, OUTSIDE OF MADRID, HAVE
RECEIVED A LETTER, DATED FEBRUARY 2, FROM MR. M. L. CORCORAN,
JR., TO THE EFFECT THAT EMPLOYEE AND FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES
HAD CAUSED MARLAU TO GO OUT OF BUSINESS AND THAT THEIR
ASSETS WERE NOT SUFFICIENT TO REPAY THE MONEY FOR FURNITURE
ORDERS THAT MANY CUSTOMERS HAD MADE.

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4. WE ARE UNCERTAIN OF THE CORCORANS' PRESENT WHEREABOUTS.

MR. L. M. CORCORAN'S LAST KNOWN ADDRESS WAS: C/O JOHN A.
BOUVIER, JR., MICHAEL CORCORAN WAS RESIDING IN APRIL AT 11,115
KATY FREEWAY, NO. 223, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77024.

5. AS FAR AS EMBASSY IS AWARE, MARLAU'S REMAINING ASSETS
ARE VERY FEW AND IT IS EXTREMELY DOUBTFUL THEY WILL SUFFICE
TO COVER EVEN CLAIMS FOR BACK WAGE AND SOCIAL SECURITY PAY-
MENTS WHICH ARE PENDING IN SPAIN AGAINST THE COMPANY. AN
ASSOCIATION OF MARLAU CUSTOMERS WITH OUTSTANDING CLAIMS HAS
BEEN FORMED AT TORREJON AIR BASE AND IS PRESENTLY EVALUATING
VARIOUS MEASURES THAT MIGHT BE TAKEN TO RECOVER THEIR MONEY.
THIS ORGANIZATION, WHICH IS A PRIVATE ASSOCIATION IN NO WAY
CONNECTED WITH THE USG, IS HEADED BY CAPTAIN LARRY NELSON OF
THE 625 MASSQ AT AT TORREJON AIR BASE. HIS ADDRESS IS BOX 3939,
APO NEW YORK 09283.
STABLER

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